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## USDA Forest Service

Jim Pena

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# CALIFORNIA-NEVADA TAHOE BASIN FIRE COMMISSION



Nevada State Capitol  
101 North Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

## CA-NEV Tahoe Basin Fire Commission Community Sub-Committee Meeting Incline Village, Nevada

Minutes  
September 21, 2007

### Sub-Committee Members:

Ruben Grijalva, Chair, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (Cal Fire)

Bob Davidson, Vice-Chair, Lake Tahoe Basin Homeowner  
Leo Drozdoff, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

Bud Hicks, Glenbrook Homeowners Association

Ron McIntyre, North Lake Tahoe Resort Association

Jeff Michael, Lake Valley Fire Protection District

John Pickett, Nevada Fire Safe Councils

Cindy Tuck, California Environmental Protection Agency

James Wright, State of Nevada Fire Marshal

The Sub-Committee convened at approximately 5pm.

The sub-committee reviewed the Commission instructions as follows:

1. Establish a committee structure, chair, co-chair, vice chair, and name.
2. Identify 3 non-commission appointee recommendations
3. Review list from last commission meeting and develop scope for committee.
4. Provide a list of future Commission presentation requests
5. Identify key performance measures and due dates
6. Determine needs, structure, and requests for technical sub-committees
7. Determine feasibility of field trips for October 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Agenda Item 1- Committee Organization**

The sub-committee selected Ruben Grijalva as Chair and Bob Davidson as Vice-Chair. Ruben Grijalva will provide support staff to the sub-committee.

### **Agenda Item 2- Non-Commission Membership**

Nominations were received from committee members for the three non-commission membership seats. The following five nominations were received:

- Jane Schmidt representing the NRCS
- Kit Bailey representing the USFS
- An unnamed representative from the BMP retrofit
- Ed Smith, University of Nevada, Cooperative Extension
- An unnamed representative from TRPA

The sub-committee voted to recommend the following 3 non-commission members to the committee:

1. Jane Schmidt, Natural Resources Conservation Service
2. Kit Bailey, United States Forest Service
3. Ed Smith, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

### **Agenda Item 3- Scope of the Sub-Committee**

With the objective of providing support for the overall objectives of the Commission which are to provide findings and recommendations to the Governors of California and Nevada, the sub-committee decided that they would approach their work by having a series of dialogues, on certain subject matters, with experts to be invited, as determined by the sub-committee.

Sub-Committee members will e-mail their suggested subject matter experts to Ruben Grijalva as soon as possible at [ruben.grijalva@fire.ca.gov](mailto:ruben.grijalva@fire.ca.gov).

The sub-committee also discussed keeping their priorities as life, property, and environment, as was discussed at a previous full Commission meeting.

### **Agenda Item 4- Future Presentations**

The sub-committee discussed the need for briefings in the following topic areas:

- 1) Balancing of acres
- 2) Wildland Urban Interface-specific to how projects are prioritized, funded and executed
- 3) Defensible space
- 4) Fire Protection/Fire Safety/ Fire Response Components-specific concerns regarding dispatching (routing of cell phone calls), detection (lookouts), aviation response and assets and cost recovery

The first such dialogues will be scheduled for the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of the sub-committee as follows:

**Morning Session:** The sub-committee will conduct a dialogue on how to get Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fuel treatments next to communities in a manner that is prioritized and funded.

Furthermore, the sub-committee will have discussions regarding Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP's), defensible space, and water quality as they relate to each other.

**Afternoon Session:** The sub-committee will conduct a dialogue on the "balancing of acres" between the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and the United States Forest Service (USFS) and its effectiveness in the Lake Tahoe basin. The sub-committee will also have discussions regarding fire protection and response issues in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

#### **Agenda Item 5- Key Performance Measures/Prioritization**

A number of key performance measures were reviewed including:

- Infrastructure (water quality, roads and business)
- Fire Protection/suppression
- Insurance
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans
- Building Standards
- Existing Homes
- Education and Outreach
- Structure Protection
- Forest Fuels treatment (federal, state and local)
- Fuel treatment priorities
- Stream Environment Zones
- Fuel Utilization
- Operational constraints

Priority topics to discuss were set as follows:

- Defensible space
- Fire Protection Response
- Balancing of acres
- Community Fire Protection Plans

The sub-committee, due to time constraints, decided to identify key performance measures and develop due dates at their next meeting at Granlibakken on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Agenda Item 6- Technical sub-committee**

No technical sub-committees were recommended at this time by the sub-committee.

**Agenda Item 7- Field Trip**

The sub-committee decided not to participate in the field trips on October 11<sup>th</sup>, but rather to focus on the dialogues with subject matter experts regarding the topics identified to this point.

**Public Comment**

The sub-committee opened the meeting to public comments. One member of the public sought clarification of the topics to be covered at the next meeting by the sub-committee and expressed concern about noise coming from an adjoining room. He received a response from the Chair. No other public members wished to comment. The public comment period was closed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Grijalva", written in a cursive style.

Ruben Grijalva,  
Chairman